

Coordinated Engagement in King County

Overview:

Catholic Community Services (CCS) was recently selected, through a competitive RFP process, to be the lead agency for Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Coordinated Engagement (CE). They will be hiring a team who will conduct housing assessments with homeless young adults in King County. These assessments will happen right in many of your agency program spaces, where young people already feel comfortable. They will work closely with providers to compile the housing inventory, the assessment tool, and the process to match each young person with a housing program – or back home with family where safe and appropriate to do so. Coordinated engagement is anticipated to launch in July, 2013.

Background:

Coordinated entry (called “engagement” for homeless YYA, because young people may also connect back with family after support and engagement) is required by HUD for all homeless populations by 2014. Coordinated Engagement is one of the first “priority action steps” being implemented by the Homeless YYA Initiative – the other two are prevention and data coordination. Now through the fall of 2013, the Homeless YYA Initiative will also be working with the community of providers, funders and young people to shepherd the Comprehensive YYA Plan, which will outline our community strategy to end YYA homelessness. The Homeless YYA Initiative is led by Megan Gibbard at King County.

Coordinated Engagement – The Team:

There is a robust and capable team leading the launch of YYA CE in King County. Here is an overview of who’s involved:

- At CCS:
 - Julie McFarland – Family Services Division Director
 - Julie will offer lessons learned by Family Housing Connection (FHC) during the start-up phase to minimize growing pains of YYA CE and will provide ongoing support and leadership of FHC and YYA CE.
 - Erin Maguire – Homeless Youth Director
 - Erin will provide in-house YYA expertise to ensure YYA CE is developmentally appropriate and unique to the needs of YYA’s.
 - Emily Harris Shears – Program Director
 - Emily will offer lessons learned by FHC and will oversee daily operations of FHC and YYA CE. Emily is the primary contact for 80+ family housing programs.
 - Jerred Clouse – Program Manager
 - Jerred is a former YYA shelter supervisor and will be the direct contact for YYA CE providers who have questions and/or concerns.
- At King County:
 - Megan Gibbard – Homeless YYA Project Manager
 - Megan will be involved with the implementation between now and late summer, will connect YYA CE to the larger work of the Homeless YYA Initiative and be the key liaison with public and private funders.
- YYA CE Workgroup
 - The YYA Coordinated Engagement workgroup has been meeting for months leading up to the selection of CCS, has drafted the YYA CE system design (attached), and will act as key advisors to CCS moving forward.

Coordinated Engagement: Next Steps, Timeline, and Key Benchmarks:

Youth & Young Adult Coordinated Engagement Roll Out Schedule – For Partners



Ongoing Updates & Communication:

- Stakeholder forums are the best opportunity to hear updates and ask questions about the launch of YYA CE. The next forum is: April 23rd | 2 – 3:30pm | Location: Friends of Youth (16225 NE 87th St., Suite A-1 (West side of building) Redmond 98052) Stakeholder Forums are held every 4th Tuesday from 2 – 3:30pm at rotating locations, email megan.gibbard@kingcounty.gov for information)
- CCS will begin sending weekly update emails regarding the launch of YYA CE (email jerredc@ccsww.org to be added to the email update list)

Who to contact with questions and input:

- How will YYA CE work? What happens with my waiting list? What do I communicate to young people?
 - o Email/call Jerred Clouse at CCS: jerredc@ccsww.org / 206-406-9374
- Questions about the Comprehensive YYA Plan or our communities' strategy to end homelessness among young people?
 - o Email/call Megan Gibbard at King County: megan.gibbard@kingcounty.gov / 206-263-2974